

In the Claims

Please amend Claims 1-20. Amendments to the claims are indicated in the attached "Marked Up Version of Amendments" (pages 13-14).

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1. (Amended) A battery casing comprising:

- a) a bottom portion having a bottom and side walls forming a compartment for holding a battery acid and battery plates; and
- b) a top portion for covering said compartment, wherein the bottom portion and top portion are formed of a flame retardant thermoplastic composition comprising a homopolymer, a copolymer, and a phosphate salt, the battery casing having a burn rating of V-O under the UL-94 standard and a flexural modulus greater than about 250,000 psi.

2. (Amended) A battery casing formed of a flame-retardant thermoplastic composition, comprising:

- a homopolymer;
- a copolymer; and
- a phosphate salt, the battery casing having a burn rating of V-O under the UL-94 standard and a flexural modulus greater than about 250,000 psi.

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6. (Amended) The battery casing of Claim 2 wherein the homopolymer of the composition is in a range from about 33 to about 37 percent by weight of the total weight of the thermoplastic composition.

7. (Amended) The battery casing Claim 2 wherein the copolymer of the composition is in a range from about 33 to about 37 percent by weight of the total weight of the thermoplastic composition.

8. (Amended) The battery casing of Claim 2 wherein the ammonium polyphosphate comprises a flame-retardant systems having a melt flow rate in the range of 12.0 to 16.0g/10 min.

9. (Amended) The battery casing of Claim 2 wherein the ammonium polyphosphate is in the range about 22 to about 29 percent by weight of the total weight of the thermoplastic composition.

11. (Amended) the battery casing of Claim 2 wherein the homopolymer and copolymer comprise a crystalline product formed by polymerization of one or more monoolefins from the group consisting of ethylene, propylene, 1-butene, 1-pentene, 1-hexene, 2-methyl-1-propene, 3-methyl-1-pentene, 4-methyl-1-pentene, and 5-methyl-1-hexene.

12. (Amended) The battery casing of Claim 11 wherein monoolefins are from the group consisting of propylene and ethylene.

13. (Amended) The battery casing of Claim 12 wherein the polymerized polypropylene comprises a polymer from the group consisting of isotactic polymers of propylene, ethylene, and copolymers of propylene with ethylene.

15. (Amended) The battery casing of Claim 14 wherein said filler varies from about 0.5-250 parts per 100 parts of the homopolymer and copolymer.

18. (Amended) The battery casing of Claim 2 which is included in an automotive battery.

20. (Amended) A method for forming a flame-retardant composition for a battery casing comprising blending a homopolymer, copolymer and a phosphate salt together at a temperature in a range from about 340 to about 410°F to form the flame retardant composition, the composition having a melt flow rate in the range from about 9.6 to about 16.0g/10min., a burn rating of V-O under the UL-94 standard and a flexural modulus greater than about 250,000 psi.

Please add new Claims 23-41.

23. (New) The battery casing of Claim 1 wherein the phosphate salt is ammonium polyphosphate.

24. (New) The battery casing of Claim 1 wherein the phosphate salt is ethylene diamine phosphate salt.

25. (New) The battery casing of Claim 1 wherein the battery casing has a burn rating of V-O under the UL-94 standard at a thickness of greater than about 1/32 of an inch.

26. (New) The battery casing of Claim 1 wherein the battery casing has a flexural modulus in the range of about 250,000 psi to about 275,000 psi.

27. (New) The battery casing of Claim 1 wherein the battery casing has a Gardner impact under the ASTM D3029 standard of greater than about 1 ft-lb/in at a thickness of about 1/8 of an inch.

28. (New) The battery casing of Claim 1 wherein the flame retardant thermoplastic composition has a specific gravity in the range from about 0.95 to about 1.25.

29. (New) The battery casing of Claim 2 wherein the phosphate salt is ammonium polyphosphate.

30. (New) The battery casing of Claim 2 wherein the phosphate salt is ethylene diamine phosphate salt.

31. (New) The battery casing of Claim 2 wherein the battery casing has a burn rating of V-O under the UL-94 standard at a thickness of greater than about 1/32 of an inch.

32. (New) The battery casing of Claim 2 wherein the battery casing has a flexural modulus in the range of about 250,000 psi to about 275,000 psi.

33. (New) The battery casing of Claim 2 wherein the battery casing has a Gardner impact under the ASTM D3029 standard of greater than about 1 ft-lb/in at a thickness of about 1/8 of an inch.

34. (New) The battery casing of Claim 2 wherein the flame retardant thermoplastic composition has a specific gravity in the range from about 0.95 to about 1.25.

35. (New) A battery casing comprising:

- a) a bottom portion having a bottom and side walls forming a compartment for holding a battery acid and battery plates;
- b) top portion for covering said compartment, wherein the bottom portion and top portion are formed of a flame retardant thermoplastic composition comprising a homopolymer, a copolymer, and a phosphate salt, the flame retardant thermoplastic composition having a specific gravity in less than about 1.25 and the battery casing having a burn rating of V-O under the UL-94 standard and a flexural modulus greater than about 228,000 psi.

36. (New) The battery casing of Claim 35 wherein the phosphate salt is ammonium polyphosphate.

37. (New) The battery casing of Claim 35 wherein the phosphate salt is ethylene diamine phosphate salt.

38. (New) The battery casing of Claim 35 wherein the battery casing has a burn rating of V-O under the UL-94 standard at a thickness of greater than about 1/32 of an inch.

39. (New) The battery casing of Claim 35 wherein the battery casing has a flexural modulus greater than about 250,000 psi.

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40. (New) The battery casing of Claim 35 wherein the battery casing has a Gardner impact under the ASTM D3029 standard of greater than about 1 ft-lb/in at a thickness of about 1/8 of an inch.

41. (New) The battery casing of Claim 35 wherein the flame retardant thermoplastic composition has a specific gravity in the range from about 0.95 to about 1.25.

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